

WHEREAS; quality afterschool programs provide safe and engaging learning experiences that help students develop social, emotional, physical, and academic skills and realize their full potential; and

WHEREAS; afterschool programs have gone above and beyond to address the unique and complex academic, social, and emotional needs of students and provide opportunities for youth to engage in their learning and connect with adults and peers in a safe and supportive environment; and

WHEREAS; according to the Afterschool Alliance, nearly 25 million families nationwide report that they would enroll their child in an afterschool program if one were available, yet many programs across the state and country continue to face funding crises and operating challenges which leave many students without a place to go at the end of each school day; and

WHEREAS; afterschool programs help support working families by ensuring kids have safe, engaging programming afterschool and contribute to the strength of communities by developing positive relationships between youth, families, schools, and community partners; and

WHEREAS; the state of Wisconsin has been proud to support afterschool and out-of-school programming and remains committed to investing in the long-term success of community- and school-based afterschool and out-of-school programming throughout the state; and

WHEREAS; “Lights On Afterschool” is a national celebration of afterschool programs that promotes the importance of quality afterschool programming in the lives of kids, families, and communities; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin reaffirms its commitment to doing what’s best for kids and supporting access to continued learning opportunities that help kids learn and grow, close opportunity and achievement gaps, and encourage continued intergenerational success in communities across the state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim October 26 2023 as

LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL DAY

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance
to all our state’s residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 6th day of October 2023.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State